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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/579,605 | 05/17/2006 | Shun-ichi Harada | 21350YP | 9392 |
| 210 MERCK AND | 7590 01/09/200 CO., INC | EXAMINER | | |
| PO BOX 2000 | | GAMETT, DANIEL C | | |
| RAHWAY, NJ 07065-0907 | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 1647 | |
| | | | | |
| | | | MAIL DATE | DELIVERY MODE |
| | | | 01/09/2008 | PAPER |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

| | Application No. | Applicant(s) | | | | |
|--|---|---------------|--|--|--|--|
| Office Action Occurrence | 10/579,605 | HARADA ET AL. | | | | |
| Office Action Summary | Examiner | Art Unit | | | | |
| | DANIEL C. GAMETT | 1647 | | | | |
| The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply | | | | | | |
| A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b). | | | | | | |
| Status | | | | | | |
| 1)⊠ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>17 M</u> | av 2006 | | | | | |
| | action is non-final. | | | | | |
| <i>i</i> — | · | | | | | |
| | closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i> , 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. | | | | | |
| Disposition of Claims | | | | | | |
| · _ | | | | | | |
| 4) Claim(s) 1 and 3-16 is/are pending in the application. | | | | | | |
| 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration. | | | | | | |
| 5) Claim(s) is/are allowed. | | | | | | |
| 6) Claim(s) is/are rejected. | | | | | | |
| 7) Claim(s) is/are objected to. | | | | | | |
| 8)⊠ Claim(s) <u>1 and 3-16</u> are subject to restriction a | and/or election requirement. | | | | | |
| Application Papers | | | | | | |
| 9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examine | r. | | | | | |
| 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner. | | | | | | |
| Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). | | | | | | |
| Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d). | | | | | | |
| 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152. | | | | | | |
| Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 | | | | | | |
| 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received. | | | | | | |
| Attachment(s) | _ | | | | | |
| 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date | | | | | | |
| 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) Notice of Informal P | | | | | |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6) Other: | | | | | | |
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DETAILED ACTION

The preliminary amendments of 05/17/2006 have been entered in full. Claims 2 and 17-38 are cancelled. Claims 1 and 3-16 are under examination.

Election/Restrictions

Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Group I, claim(s) 1 and 3-9, drawn to an isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence of nucleotides that encodes a rhesus monkey dickkopf-1 (rhDkk-1) protein and a process for expressing a rhesus monkey dickkopf-1 (rhDkk-1) protein in a recombinant host cell.

Group II, claim(s) 10 and 12-16, drawn to an isolated and purified rhesus dickkopf-1 (rhDkk-1) polypeptide and methods for determining whether an analyte is an antagonist of Dickkopf .

Group III, claim(s) 11, drawn to an antibody that binds specifically to an isolated and purified rhesus dickkopf-1 polypeptide.

The inventions listed as Groups I-III do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons:

Group I recites the special technical feature, an isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence of nucleotides that encodes a rhesus monkey dickkopf-1 (rhDkk-1) protein, which is not required by the methods or the products of Groups II-III.

Group II recites the special technical feature, an isolated and purified rhesus dickkopf-1 (rhDkk-1) polypeptide, which is not required by the methods or the products of Groups I or III.

Group III recites the special technical feature, an antibody that binds specifically to an isolated and purified rhesus dickkopf-1 polypeptide, which is not required by the methods or the products of Groups I-III.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include (i) an election of a species or invention to be examined even though the requirement may be traversed (37 CFR 1.143) and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected invention.

The election of an invention or species may be made with or without traverse. To preserve a right to petition, the election must be made with traverse. If the reply does not distinctly and specifically point out supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election shall be treated as an election without traverse.

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel C. Gamett, PhD., whose telephone number is (571)272-1853. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Manjunath N. Rao can be reached on 571 272 0939. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

DCG Art Unit 1647 9 January 2008

/David S Romeo/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1647